

Emergency Management Academy

The Emergency Management Academy (EMA) is an innovative approach to emergency management education and training that combines web-based, video, and face-to-face training to optimize learning. The Academy addresses all aspects of emergency management with particular emphasis on **emergency management and health care**.

The goal of the EMA is to equip VA 1) managers and leaders, 2) clinical managers and leaders, 3) clinicians, and 4) emergency managers with the knowledge, skills and competencies to fully carry out their roles and responsibilities in preparing for and managing all types of health care emergencies. The Academy uses state of the art learning technologies to assess knowledge and skill gaps, tailor instructional experiences, and deliver needed instruction using methods best suited to the needs of the learner.

Academy components include:

- Web-based core-training program. All Academy members participate in web-based instructional modules specifically tailored to meet their needs, based on their professional role and an assessment of their emergency management knowledge and skill gaps.
- Web-based Knowledge Management database. This searchable library contains essential documents, reference materials and specific guidelines essential to the work of those participating in emergency management. It also contains hot links to valid and reliable primary sources of emergency management information.
- Satellite video-based quarterly emergency management updates. All Academy participants and VHA leadership will be provided with quarterly emergency management updates. The updates will cover “hot issues” including changes in regulations and guidelines, issues for action, incident reports and expert discussions on emerging knowledge in emergency management.
- Annual emergency management conference. All academy participants and VA leaders are eligible to attend this conference. This conference will focus on training that does not lend itself to distance learning.
- Real-time emergency management team exercises. A performance-based emergency management exercise program, run as a computer simulation, will allow those who have completed their core training to work in teams to demonstrate proficiency in managing large-scale emergency situations.